.III. 1 5 2003 Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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HEQUEST

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

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Application Number	09/512,149/132
Filing Date	February 23, 2000
First Named Inventor	Vishnu K. Argawal
Group Art Unit	2814
Examiner Name	Pizarro-Crespo
Attorney Docket Number	MI22-1322

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. | Other b. X Enclosed i. X Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. X Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. X Other PTO-Form 1449, Cited Ref. and Pet. for Extension of Time Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to 23-0925Deposit Account No. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 07/18/2003 HDEMESS1 00000101 09512149 Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 750.00 OP 01 FC:1801 Extra claim fees b. |x| Check in the amount of \$860.00 enclosed Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Name (Print /Type) Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 40.045 D. B. Kenady Signature July 14, 2003 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Name (Print/Type)

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July 14,

Date

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RESPONSE TO MARCH 12, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

To:

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

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Responsive to the Final Office Action dated March 12, 2003, Applicant ds and remarks as follows:

AMENDMENTS

Underlines indicate insertions and strikeouts indicate deletions amends and remarks as follows: